



## FLORIDA DEPARTMENT of STATE

**RON DESANTIS**  
Governor

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Secretary of State

Chris Stahl  
Florida State Clearinghouse  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
3800 Commonwealth Blvd., M.S. 47  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

February 08, 2019

RE: DHR Project File No.: 2018-6301-B, Received by DHR: January 02, 2019  
Application No.: FL201901048510C  
Project Name: *Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Velella Epsilon Project by Kampachi Farms, Offshore Aquaculture, Gulf of Mexico*  
County: Sarasota

To Whom It May Concern:

The Florida State Historic Preservation Officer reviewed the referenced project for possible effects on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the *National Register of Historic Places*. The review was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966*, as amended, and its implementing regulations in *36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties*.

In 2018, a baseline environmental survey (BES) employing single-beam bathymetry, sidescan sonar, magnetometry, and sub-bottom profiling was completed for the proposed project, *Baseline Environmental Survey Report For the Velella Epsilon Project – Pioneering Offshore Aquaculture in the Southeastern Gulf of Mexico, NOAA Sea Grant 2017 Aquaculture Initiative*.

Dr. Gordon Watts, Jr., Senior Marine Archaeologist and Principal Investigator at Tidewater Atlantic Research, Inc. (TAR), analyzed and interpreted the resulting data sets, determining that no submerged cultural resources will be impacted by the proposed project if anchors and/or sinkers can be located on, or within, 50 feet of the surveyed lines. Conditional upon the placement of anchors and/or sinkers on, or within, 50 feet of the surveyed lines, TAR recommended no additional archaeological investigation of the project area. TAR recommended additional investigation of the project area should the anchoring design require placing ground tackle outside of the 100 foot corridors centered on the data tracklines.

Based on the information provided, our office concurs with TAR's recommendations. Should the anchoring design for the proposed project require placing ground tackle outside of the 100 foot corridors centered on the data tracklines or project plans change, we request additional consultation with our office, as supplemental remote sensing surveying may be required.

It is the opinion of this office that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties. However, unexpected finds may occur during ground-disturbing activities, and we recommend that the permit, if issued,

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should include the following "Unexpected Discovery Protocol," as outlined by Kampachi Farms, LLC in the referenced BES report:

- In the event that any project activities expose potential prehistoric/historic cultural materials not identified during the remote-sensing survey, operations should be immediately shifted from the site. The respective Point of Contact for regulatory agencies with jurisdictional oversight should be immediately apprised of the situation. Notification should address the exact location, where possible, the nature of material exposed by project activities, and options for immediate archaeological inspection and assessment of the site.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Hall, Historic Sites Specialist, by email at *Kristen.Hall@dos.myflorida.com*, or by telephone at 850.245.6342 or 800.847.7278.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Timothy A. Parsons".

Timothy A Parsons, Ph.D.  
Director, Division of Historical Resources  
& State Historic Preservation Officer